

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated January 12, 2005. Claims 23-26 and 28-34 are presented for examination, of which Claims 23, 26, 28, and 34 are in independent form. Claim 27 has been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Claim 23 has been amended merely as to a minor matter of form. Claim 34 has been added to provide Applicants with a more complete scope of protection. Favorable reconsideration is requested. The canceled claim will not be further addressed herein.

Claims 23-26 and 28-33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,557,736 (*Hirosawa et al.*).¹

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of Claims 23-26 and 28-33 for the following reasons.

The aspect of the present invention set forth in Claim 23 is a data processing apparatus connectable to a LAN. The apparatus includes an input unit adapted to input data, a storage unit adapted to store the data inputted by the input unit, and an identification unit adapted to obtain user information about a user for whom the data inputted by the input unit was received. The apparatus also includes a transfer unit adapted to transfer the data inputted by the input unit to a terminal connected to the LAN through the LAN when

¹/Applicants note that although Claims 23-26 and 28-33 were rejected as being anticipated by *Hirosawa et al.*, the Office Action in discussing the rejection of Claim 23 cites passages and figures from what appears to be U.S. Patent No. 5,859,956 (*Sugiyama et al.*). For example, the Office Action at page 3, lines 5 and 6, refers to Figures 75 and 76, and column 30, lines 48-67, which Applicants assumes refers to the *Sugiyama et al.* patent because the *Hirosawa et al.* patent contains only 18 figures and 22 columns. Applicants in this Amendment have addressed the rejection of Claim 23 as being anticipated by *Hirosawa et al.* and direct the Examiner to the Amendment filed on July 21, 2004, for arguments on the patentability of Claim 23 over *Sugiyama et al.*

it is impossible to store the data inputted by the input unit in the storage unit and a generation unit adapted to generate a predetermined notification, based on the user information obtained by the identification unit, to notify the user that the data has been transferred by the transfer unit, the notification including information indicating the terminal to which the data is transferred by the transfer unit. The apparatus further includes a sending unit adapted to send the predetermined notification generated by the generation unit to the user corresponding to the user information obtained by the identification unit as mail.

Among other notable features of Claim 23 are transferring the data inputted by the input unit to a terminal connected to the LAN through the LAN when it is impossible to store the data inputted by the input unit in the storage unit, and sending a predetermined notification as mail to the user who corresponds to the user information obtained by the identification unit, to notify the user that the data has been transferred by the transfer unit.

Hirosawa et al. relates to a computer system for executing a job by utilizing an electronic mail system connected via a public telephone network 4. *Hirosawa et al.* allows a user of the electronic mail system to recognize a condition of an execution result of a job performed in the computer system and a job execution result. The job execution results are available from an output device for the user. When a mail processing unit of the computer system analyzes a mail statement about the job execution derived from the electronic mail system and the job execution is completed, the mail processing unit sends to the electronic mail system a mail statement about the completion of the job execution containing information about fail/safe execution result. Upon receiving this report, the user

designates the output device into a response mail so as to output the job execution result from the designated output device.

The Office Action cites column 5, lines 1-19, of *Hirosawa et al.* as disclosing transferring data inputted by the input unit to a terminal connected to the LAN through the LAN when it is impossible to store the data inputted by the input unit in the storage unit. Applicants disagree with this understanding of *Hirosawa et al.* The cited passage merely discusses a file for temporarily storing a list of job execution results derived from a spool file 8, and that the components of the system are coupled either by a public telephone network 4 or directly to the computer system 1. However, nothing has been found in *Hirosawa et al.* that would teach or suggest transferring the data inputted by the input unit to a terminal connected to the LAN through the LAN when it is impossible to store the data inputted by the input unit in the storage unit, as recited in Claim 23.

Further, the Office Action appears to equate how a data processing apparatus has connections to different terminals and can communicate with these terminals connected within the LAN, and how a user is informed that the data has been transferred to another terminal (Abstract and Figures 1, 5, 7, and 9 of *Hirosawa et al.*) with generating a predetermined notification. Where the predetermined notification is based on the user information obtained by the identification unit, to notify the user that the data has been transferred by the transfer unit, the notification including information indicating the terminal to which the data is transferred by the transfer unit, as recited in Claim 23. As discussed, above, *Hirosawa et al.* fails to disclose the transfer unit feature of Claim 23. Accordingly, *Hirosawa et al.* also fails to disclose the generation unit of Claim 23. Figure 1 of *Hirosawa et al.* depicts an arrangement of an electronic mail associated type computer

system. Figure 5 depicts a structure of a mail box within the electronic mail system. Figure 7 depicts a structure of a mail processing program within the computer system, and Figure 9 depicts a flowchart of a processing operation of a job execution completion announcement of Figure 7. A mail processing unit sends to the electronic mail system a mail statement concerning the completion of the job execution containing information about a fail/safe execution result, as discussed in the Abstract. However, Applicants have found nothing in *Hirosawa et al.* that would teach or suggest the generation unit of Claim 23, where the predetermined notification, based on the user information obtained by the identification unit, notifies the user that the data has been transferred by the transfer unit, and wherein the predetermined notification includes information indicating the terminal to which the data is transferred by the transfer unit.

Further, because *Hirosawa et al.* fails to disclose the transfer unit and the generation unit of Claim 23, Applicants submit that *Hirosawa et al.* also fails to teach or suggest sending the predetermined notification generated by the generation unit to the user corresponding to the user information obtained by the identification unit as mail, as further recited in Claim 23.

For at least the above reasons, Applicants submit that Claim 23 is clearly patentable over *Hirosawa et al.*

Independent Claim 26 is a method claim corresponding to apparatus Claim 23, and is believed to be patentable over *Hirosawa et al.* for at least the same reasons as discussed above in connection with Claim 23. Additionally, independent Claims 28 and 34 are believed to be allowable over *Hirosawa et al.* because they recite *inter alia*, transferring data which was received through a communication line to a terminal on the LAN through

the LAN, and sending a report mail indicating that the received data was transferred. These recitations are similar in many relevant respects to those emphasized above in connection with Claim 23. Accordingly, Claims 28 and 34 are believed to be patentable over *Hirosawa et al.*, for reasons substantially the same as those discussed above in connection with Claim 23.

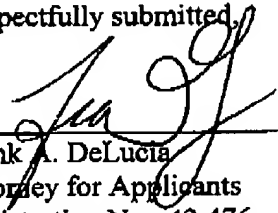
The other claims in this application are each dependent from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

This Amendment After Final Action is believed clearly to place this application in condition for allowance and, therefore, its entry is believed proper under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116. Accordingly, entry of this Amendment After Final Action, as an earnest effort to advance prosecution and reduce the number of issues, is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe that issues remain outstanding, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact Applicants' undersigned attorney in an effort to resolve such issues and advance the case to issue.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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